

Please substitute the following for the pending claims with the same number:

15. (Amended) A slurry for polishing a barrier layer comprising a mixture of:

between about 0.01 mole and about 0.1 mole per liter of a citric acid salt;

between about 1% and about 20% by volume of a silica based abrasive;

between about 0.0004 and about 2 moles per liter of an oxidizer; and

a water solvent.

22. (Amended) A slurry for polishing a barrier layer that serves to isolate a copper layer from a dielectric layer comprising a mixture of:

about 14.7 grams per liter of a citric acid salt;

between about 4.4% and about 8.8% by volume of a silica based

abrasive; and

about .38 grams per liter of a 30% H_2O_2 solution.

23. (Amended) The slurry of claim 22 wherein the mixture includes about 8.8% by volume of a precipitated silica abrasive, has a pH that is about 7.4, and wherein the citric acid salt is potassium citrate.